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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1943.

North Road Printing Works, Kirkburton. Tel. 80.

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KIRKBURTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1943.

Lepton,
July, 1944.

To the Chairman and Members of the Kirkburton Urban District Council.

Sir and Gentlemen,

I here present my annual report for the year ending December 31st, 1943. As I reported last year the Sanitary Department is understaffed, more so on account of extra duties imposed on your Inspector in war-time.

Statistics of Social Conditions of the Area.

Officers: A. Tait, M.B., Part-time M.O.H.; John Hewitt, A.R.San.I., Sanitary Inspector.

Area.—14,577 acres.

Population.—The Registrar-General's estimated mid 1943; 17,840. Excluding the Storthes Hall Mental Hospital population of 3050, the estimated population of the area is 14,790.

Rateable value and sum represented by a penny rate.

Respectively £70,702 and £294 10s. 2d.

		M.	F.	Total.	
Live Births—Legitimate	...	128	117	245	
Illegitimate	...	4	3	7	
Total	...	132	120	252	
			Rate per 1,000		17.
Still Births—Legitimate	...	6	5	11	
Illegitimate	...	0	0	0	
			Rate per 1,000		.74.
Deaths	...	95	100	195	
			Rate per 1,000		11.9.

The total 195 includes 52 inward transfers of persons belonging to but dying outside the area and 19 deaths in Storthes Hall Mental Hospital of persons unable to be allocated to any area.

The death rate is calculated on the figure excluding these 19 cases and on the estimated population of the area 14,790.

The corresponding vital statistics for England and Wales are Live Births, 16.5; Still Births, .51; Deaths, 12.1. There were 8 deaths under one year of age giving an infantile death rate of 31. The comparative rate for England and Wales is 49.

This is the first time for 5 years that the birth rate of the area has been above and the death rate lower than England and Wales. Diseases of the heart and arteries accounted for 91 deaths, cancer for 24, eleven less than last year, and tuberculosis for 8 deaths, 5 more than last year.

Deaths from puerperal causes—

Puerperal Sepsis 0. Other Causes 1.

Deaths of Infants under one year	8
All Infants per 1,000 live births	31
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate births ...	31
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	0
Deaths from Cancer	24
Deaths from Measles	0
Deaths from Whooping-Cough	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years	0

The deaths recorded in the district corrected with the inward and outward transfers are recorded in the following table, classified in the sixteen commonest causes and allocated to the different wards.

Just over half the deaths, 89, were in persons 70 years of age and upwards.

Table A.

	Flockton	Kirkburton	Kirkheaton	Lepton	Shelley	Shepley	Thurstonland	Farnley Tyas	Whitley Upper	Total
Diseases of Heart and Circulation	2	16	11	17	5	10	3	3	—	67
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	2	3	2	1	2	2	—	—	1	13
Cancer	2	7	3	3	2	2	3	1	1	24
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	—	1	3	5	2	3	—	—	1	15
Violent Deaths	2	2	2	7	—	—	—	1	—	14
Suicide	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
Others	2	1	2	5	—	—	—	1	—	11
Tuberculosis	1	3	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	8
Pulmonary	1	3	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	7
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Diseases of Digestive System ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3
Congenital Debility	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	5
Diabetes	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Defined Diseases	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	—	2	14
Causes Undefined	4	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	8
Total	16	35	25	40	16	22	9	6	7	176

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Laboratory Facilities.—The County Laboratory at Wakefield performs all the necessary examinations, throat swabs, water and milk samples, etc.

Ambulances.—Infectious cases removed by the Mill Hill Isolation Hospital Ambulance with bedding, etc. General and Accident: Motor Ambulance at Hepworth's Garage. Kirkburton, subsidized by the L.A., and the Huddersfield Hospital Contributory Scheme Ambulance are available. The ambulance service has been and is efficient for the area in normal times.

Nursing in the Home.—The district is now adequately covered for nursing in the home. The outlying districts of Farnley Tyas and Thurstonland are served by the Honley nurses and Flockton has now a district nurse, who attends to Grangemoor as well, and Kirkheaton has the services of the Huddersfield Victoria Nurses. The district nurses in the area are subsidized by the W.R.C.C. for midwifery cases and this arrangement works very well except in the Kirkheaton ward. The nurse for this ward lives in Flockton and has Whitley-Upper in her area as well. This is too wide an area and impossible to work satisfactorily, particularly in respect of Kirkheaton.

Clinics—Ante-Natal and Child Welfare: W.R.C.C. Clinic, Cowms Chapel, Lepton, Tuesdays 2—4. Ante-Natal, third Thursday in month, 2—4. Child Welfare, Dogley Chapel, Kirkburton, Tuesdays, 2—4.

Tuberculosis—W.R.C.C. Clinic, 1, Peel Street, Huddersfield, Tuesday and Friday, 2—4. X-ray examination at Medical Centre, Greenups Terrace, Sowerby Bridge, by appointment.

V.D. Clinic held at Royal Infirmary, Huddersfield. Men and Women. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 6—8-30; Wednesday, 10—12 noon.

Hospitals—The district is served by the following institutions in the neighbouring townships:

Infectious Diseases—Mill Hill Isolation Hospital, Huddersfield.

General and Accident—Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, Dewsbury Royal Infirmary, Clayton Hospital, Wakefield.

Maternity Cases—Huddersfield Borough Maternity Home, Greenhead; Dewsbury Borough Maternity Home; Staincliffe County Hospital, Dewsbury; White Rose County Hospital, Wakefield; Memorial Hospital, Holmfirth.

The Staincliffe and White Rose Hospitals are also available for the sick poor and other classes without distinction. Abnormal maternity cases can be admitted to the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, Colne and Holme Isolation Hospital and the two municipal hospitals at Staincliffe and White Rose, Wakefield.

Sanitary Circumstances of District.

Total number of Inspections	1419
Nuisances	135
Housing	632
Scavenging and Salvage	186
Sewage Works	81
Cowsheds and Dairies	56
Evacuation	163
Property under notice	18
Work in progress	14
Trade Effluent	9
Meat and Foods	10
Infectious Diseases	8
Disinfection	3
Disinfestation	2
Miscellaneous	102

Summary of Sanitary Improvements Effected.

Privies abolished	4
Privies converted to water-closets	3
New water-closets provided	8
Vent shafts provided	3
Inspection Chambers provided	7
Drains repaired or reconstructed	3
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	3
Blocked drains liberated	6
Eave gutters repaired	4

Bathrooms provided	2
Sewage disposal plant provided	2
Roofs repaired	1
Walls replastered	3
Windows repaired	1
Blocked gullies liberated	2
New gullies provided	2
Cesspools provided	1
Dustbins provided	77

Nuisances.

Total number of nuisance inspections	135
Nuisances found	73
Nuisances in hand end 1942	31
Total needing abatement	104
Abated during 1943	74
Outstanding end of 1943	30
Informal notices served	18
Informal notices complied with	10
Statutory notices served	1
Summonses or other legal proceedings	0

Regulated Buildings, Trades, etc.

There are no Common Lodging Houses, Houses let in lodgings, Canal Boats, Knackers Yards, or Tents, Vans or Sheds in the district. Offensive Trades 2: Tripe Dressing and Glue and Size Works.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There have been no sewer extensions during the year. Some outlying parts of Kirkburton, Lepton, Flockton, Kirkheaton and Whitley-Upper still require sewering. 913 houses are not connected to sewers. The sewerage works are generally inadequate; the West Riding Rivers Board have reported several samples unsatisfactory.

Closet Accommodation.

Privies with open or covered middens 1571.
Pail or tub closets 79.
Water Closets 2802.
Closets and privies re-constructed as W.C.'s 12.

A Grant of £3 and Dustbin is given by the Council towards the cost of voluntary conversion.

Scavenging and Salvage reported by the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Hewitt.

Collection of Household Refuse.

Dustbins are emptied by the Karrier "Bantam" refuse wagon. The cleansing of privies and ashpits has been carried out by the Council's workmen, using hired haulage for removal, except in Lepton, where the Council's horse and cart are used and in Thurstonland and Farnley Tyas where teamers provide their own labour.

In November, 1943, the Council purchased a second Karrier "Bantam" refuse wagon for the collection of kitchen waste and it has been found possible to utilise the vehicle part-time for cleansing of privies and ashpits and thus eliminate hired haulage in some wards.

Dustbins are emptied weekly in Flockton, Grangemoor, Lepton and Kirkburton and fortnightly in Kirkheaton, Shepley, Shelley, Thurstonland and Farnley Tyas. Privies and ashpits are emptied at six weekly intervals and tub closets are emptied weekly in some cases and fortnightly in others.

Disposal of Refuse.

The whole of the refuse is disposed of by tipping. Due to the fact that all privy refuse has, until the purchase of the second refuse wagon, been horse hauled, it has been necessary to use a large number of tips to eliminate as far as possible long hauls. Twenty tips are in use, of which ten are rented, four are free and six are on Council property.

Salvage.

The collection of Salvage has been continued during the year. There has been a decline in the quantities of all salvage available with the exception of bones and rags which have shown a slight increase. The disposal of tins was discontinued in December on the instructions of the Ministry of Supply. Their disposal is now confined to Local Authorities who have their own baling presses.

As from 1st July, the Council were required under directions given by the Ministry of Supply, to collect kitchen waste within the District. The actual collection was not begun until December due to delay in delivery of the wagon. Two hundred bins have been distributed in the District. The quantity collected averages five tons per month which is approximately seven cwts.. per 1,000 population per month.

A Salvage drive was held in September, mainly for the collection of unwanted books. This resulted in the collection of 17,144 books. After sorting they were allocated and despatched as follows:—

H.M. Services ...	938
Libraries	247
Children's Hospital	258
Repulping	15701
	17144

Details of Salvage sold during the year.

Material	Weight			Price per ton			Value		
	T.	Cwts.	Qtrs.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Newsprint	2	16	2	10	15	0	30	7	5
Selected Paper ...	8	16	1	7	0	0	61	13	9
Mixed Paper ...	87	2	2	6	7	6	555	6	8
Mixed Iron	3	14	1	1	10	0	5	11	4
Tins	15	6	0	0	15	0	11	9	6
Copper and Brass	0	1	3	18	13	4	1	12	8
Aluminium	0	1	0	54	0	0	2	14	0
Lead	0	1	3	16	0	0	1	6	0
Rubber	2	2	0	2	10	0	5	5	0
String	0	11	0	4	10	0	2	11	9
Bones	2	9	3	4	15	0	11	8	8
Bottles and Jars	0	15	0		var.		4	3	10
Rags	2	1	3	16	0	0	33	9	0
Sacking	0	16	0	4	10	0	3	11	7
Kitchen Waste ...	17	17	3	1	10	0	26	16	7
							£757	7	9
Subsidy on Ferrous scrap ...							£33	13	2
							£791	0	11

Wages.

Rates of wages at the end of the year (31.3.44) were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	
Scavenging Foreman ...	4	8	5	per week
Scavenger (Dustbins) ...	0	1	6½	per hour
†Scavenger (Privies) ...	0	1	7	per hour
Refuse Tip Man	0	1	6½	per hour
Paper Baler	0	1	6½	per hour
Horse Man	0	1	7	per hour
†Lorry Driver	0	1	8	per hour

†Plus 1d. per hour whilst emptying privies.

Analysis of Cost. Collection and Disposal of Refuse and Salvage.

	Dustbins & Ashpits	Privies	Refuse Disposal	Salvage: Kitchen Waste	Salvage: Other	Salvage: Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wages	863	812	129	56	502	558	2362
Hired Haulage ...	5	570	4	0	64	64	643
Vehicles	254	109	0	29	13	42	405
Sundries	59	16	49	4	36	40	164
	£1181	1507	182	0	0	704	3574
Credits	5	6	0	0	0	791	802
	£1176	1501	182	0	0	0	2772

Unit Costs.

	Collection	Disposal	Total
Nett cost per ton	10/-	8d.	10/8
Nett cost per 1,000 population ...	£144	£10	£154
Nett cost per 1,000 houses	£530	£37	£567

Weights of refuse are estimated, being based on a number of test weights.

Water Supply.

The Huddersfield Corporation Supply and distribute to part of the area. The Dewsbury Water Board Supply

is distributed by the Urban Council. There are two private supplies at Farnley Tyas and Shepley. Dwelling houses on Public Supply 4,750. The quality of the supply has been satisfactory, 4 samples taken for bacteriological examination, gave satisfactory results, but the quantity has been deficient in the Flockton district.

Milk Supply.

Two registers are kept as required by Section 2 (3) Milk Dairies Amendment Act, 1922, for retailers and Cow keepers and wholesale traders. There have been no retailers removed from the register.

Cow keepers in the district 143. Registered 143.
Total number of cowsheds 199.
Total number of cowsheds inspected 73.
Total number of cowshed inspections 56.
Number of wholesale traders registered 84.
Number of retail milk sellers 72.

Many sheds are in need of structural alterations and separate milk rooms required.

Housing.

A survey of the housing conditions was commenced in October and by the end of the year the whole of Flockton and part of Whitley-Upper, Shepley and Thurstonland had been completed. A very comprehensive examination being recorded on cards which will form a valuable record when completed of the housing situation generally in the area.

Schools.

There are 14 elementary schools in the area with an approximate estimated number of children 1930. All have been visited, particularly when infectious disease has occurred in the district, contacts being examined and suspicious absentees visited. The schools are generally in a satisfactory sanitary condition. No schools have been closed. I receive notifications of infectious disease from the Huddersfield Medical Officer of cases occurring in houses in the Borough where children are attending schools in Kirkburton Area.

Mortuaries.

There are two equipped for post-mortem examinations, one at the Town Hall, Kirkburton and one at Lepton Old Council Offices, Greavehouse. There is none for infectious diseases and these cases are now taken in Mill Hill Isolation Hospital.

Infectious Diseases.

The measles epidemic at the end of 1942 continued through January, February and March. About 100 cases were notified affecting chiefly Flockton, Whitley-Upper and Kirkburton. A second outbreak of 40 cases accurred in June, July and August in the Kirkburton Ward. There were no serious complications requiring hospital treatment and no deaths.

Whooping-Cough was epidemic in April, May and June, in the Kirkheaton, Lepton and Whitley-Upper Wards.

There was an unusual number of Scarlet Fever cases 41, of which half occurred in epidemic form in Kirkheaton and Lepton from September to November. Of the enteric group there was one case of Paratyphoid, a carrier discovered as a result of an operation in Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, apart from the cases in Storthes Hall Mental Hospital. A case of Abortive Fever was notified and the milk supply involved was investigated by the W.R.C.C. as was also the milk supply in a case of Tuberculous Meningitis.

A remarkable fact was the immunity of Shepley and Shelley Wards from infectious diseases, only 4 cases being notified in each.

Ten cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and four of Non-pulmonary were notified, apart from cases occurring in Storthes Hall Mental Hospital. The following tables show the numbers notified from the different wards, numbers sent to hospital and also the tuberculosis cases with the age incidence for pulmonary and non-pulmonary cases.

Infectious Diseases.

	Flockton	Kirkburton	Kirkheaton	Lepton	Shelley	Shepley	Thurstonland	Farnley Tyas	Whitley Upper	Total	Removed to Hospital
Scarlet Fever	6	6	16	6	2	—	—	—	5	41	37
Diphtheria	—	2	—	1†	1	—	6†	—	—	10	4
Pneumonia	4	6	—	7	—	—	—	4	—	21	—
Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	2†	—	—	2	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	1	—	—	—	8†	—	—	9	—
Abortive Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Measles	42	58	3	10	—	4	—	—	25	142	—
Whooping Cough	16	14	23	17	1	—	4	—	3	78	—
Erysipelas	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	5	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Myelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dysentery	—	—	1	1	—	—	8†	—	—	10	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	1	4	3	3	1	2	22†	—	1	37	—
Pulmonary	—	4	1	2	—	2	18†	—	1	28	—
Non-Pulmonary	1	—	2	1	1	—	4†	—	—	9	—
Total	71	90	48	46	5	7	50	4	36	357	44

† In or from Storthes Hall Mental Hospital.

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
25	2	1	—	1	—	3	—	—
35	1	2	1	1	—	1	—	—
45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4	6	2	2	—	6	—	—

Excluding 17 Respiratory and 5 Non-respiratory cases from Storthes Hall Mental Hospital and 1 Respiratory from Mental Defective Home.

Immunization against Diphtheria.

The following leaflet was distributed in all the elementary schools:

Kirkburton Urban District Council.

Diphtheria is the commonest single cause of death among School-children. In one year there were nearly 3,000 such deaths and more than 61,000 cases in England and Wales.

It can safely be said most of these cases were avoidable and most of the deaths needless tragedies.

Modern preventative treatment is safe and provided free of cost. Its value has been proved beyond any reasonable doubt.

The treatment consists of two small injections at an interval of one month.

These injections are not painful and do not cause any illness.

No child over one year old should be unprotected against Diphtheria. **In Scotland, in 1941, among**

766,000 immunized children there was one death. Among 389,000 unprotected children there were 418 deaths.

You are urgently asked to take advantage of this treatment which you can obtain free from:—

1. Your own Doctor;
2. The Child Welfare Clinic at Cowms Chapel, Lepton;
3. School Clinics; Dates to be announced by the Head-Teacher.

A. TAIT,
Medical Officer of Health.

At the beginning of the year, 75% of the school-children were estimated to have been immunized.

During the year 366 children have been treated:

	Under 5's	5 to 15
From Schools	65	129
Welfare Centre	109	11
Privately	43	9
Total	217	149

which number will keep the % about the same as last year. The material used was A.P.T. doses .2c.c. and .5c.c. Two cases were notified during the year, both in non-immunized children. There were no deaths. The W.R.C.C. nurses and teachers have been very helpful as previously in getting children to come up for treatment. The children are beginning to look upon it as a regular ritual for they come crowding round asking, "Are you going to prick us," and seem disappointed when told only those who have not been done before.

Scabies Order, 1941.

39 cases (men 5, women 7, children 27) were treated at the Waterloo Clinic. Beuzyl Benzoate was used with good results. One family had to be treated twice. The W.R.C.C. Nurse and Lepton District Nurse were in attendance.

As I had heard a large number of children were away from school on account of Scabies a circular letter was sent to doctors practicing in the district reminding them the Council had agreed to pay a fee of 2/6 for notification of Scabies.

Reception of Evacuees.

8 unaccompanied children from Shoreham were received into the Flockton Ward.

The Blood Donor Campaign.

The Blood Transfusion Service from Leeds attended again in April at the Old Boys Dressing Rooms at Waterloo, and some 105 pints of blood were contributed to the pool which serves the armed forces at home and abroad. Nurses from the 1st aid post at Kirkburton and the Lepton District Nurse assisted the Regional Staff.

A.R.P.

The Kirkburton Urban District forms part of the Upper Agbrigg A.R.P. area. Mr. Nuttall has continued to act as Commandant with marked efficiency. The First Aid Services consist of a fixed First Aid Post at Eldon House, Kirkburton, M.O., Dr. J. A. Stephens. Eight First Aid Parties with cars at the following depots: Kirkheaton Old Council Rooms; Lepton Old Council Rooms; Flockton Old Council Rooms; Shelley, Barkhouse Chapel; Shepley Conservative Club and Stocksmoor at Town Moor Road.

There are nine First Aid Points manned by First Aid Trained Women at Lepton, Cowms Chapel and Lydgate Post Office; Grangemoor, Mr. Abraham Schofield's; Farnley Tyas, The Cock; Thurstonland, Old Council Rooms, and at the depots at Kirkheaton, Shelley, Shepley and Flockton.

Ambulances—One ambulance and a car with trailer at Shepley, one ambulance at Kirkheaton.

All the ambulance personnel have had lessons in driving and most of them have passed the test.

Feeding and Shelter Centres established by the W.R.C.C. are situated at the Masonic Hall, Kirkburton; Cowms Chapel Sunday School; Primitive Methodist Sunday School, Grangemoor and Church of England Day School, Kirkburton.

Yours obediently,

A. TAIT,

Medical Officer of Health.